

December 23, 2005

In reply refer to:
R&C#: 051200034

Mr. Don Hultman, Refuge Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge
51 E. Fourth Street – Room 101
Winona, Minnesota 55987

RE: FWS – ALLAMAKKE, CLAYTON, DUBUQUE, JACKSON, CLINTON, AND SCOTT COUNTIES, IOWA – UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE – MISSISSIPPI RIVER MILES 493.5 TO 473.9 -- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SUPPLEMENTAL DRAFT EIS AND COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLAN ALTERNATIVE E

Dear Mr. Hultman,

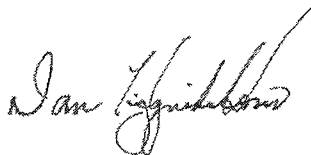
We have received and reviewed a copy of the *Executive Summary: Supplemental to Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Comprehensive Conservation Plan – Alternative E: Modified Wildlife and Integrated Public Use* for the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge (December 2005) and section 3.5 Cultural Resources and Historic Preservation of the comprehensive Alternative E document.

In our consulting opinion, several of the proposed actions authorized under Alternative E have the potential to cause effects to properties of cultural or historical significance. These include the following:

1. The proposed Kain Switch Hiking Trail north of Lansing, Iowa. RM 668 – 670.75.
2. The proposed Conway Lake Canoe Launch north of Lansing, Iowa at RM 665 – 667.
3. The proposed Red Oak Road Wildlife Drive/Bike Loop at Harper's Slough, RM 648.
4. The proposed Observation Platform at Harper's Slough, RM 650.
5. The proposed Johnson Slough Interpretive Motorboat Route north of Clayton at RM 626.
6. The proposed Goetz Island Hiking Trail south of Lock and Dam 10, RM 613 – 614.5.
7. The proposed Turkey River Delta Hiking/Auto Tour Route, RM 607-608.
8. The proposed Mud Lake Canoe Trail, RM 587.8 – 589.
9. The proposed John Deer Marsh Hiking Trail, RM 585.9 – 587.
10. The proposed improvements (black top, Parking Lot, and Access Road), RM 549.9.
11. The proposed Keller's Island Canoe Trail north of Sabula, RM 535.7 – 538.5.
12. The proposed Gomer's Lake Canoe Trail north of Fulton, RM 526.8 – 528.
13. The proposed Rock Creek Canoe Trail, RM 507—508.
14. The proposed Steamboat Slough Canoe Trail, 503.2-506.

We look forward to consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its partner agencies regarding these federal undertakings in the very near future. Until then do not hesitate to contact me at (515) 281-8744 or daniel.higginbottom@iowa.gov if you have any questions or require further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Daniel K. Higginbottom, Archaeologist
Iowa State Historic Preservation Office

Cc: John Dobrovolny, RHPO, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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